

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A cutting machine for organic plant materials, ~~especially for tobacco, having comprising:~~
a ~~cutterhead~~ cutting head mounted in a stationary main frame, ~~and ;~~
a feeding-compacting arrangement frame, ~~forming a stream of a fed material,~~
comprising transporters for feeding the material into a cutting zone of the cutting head, and means
for compacting and/or polarizing mutual distribution of fed particles, ~~characterized in that the~~
~~cutterhead (2) is mounted in the stationary main frame (1), fixed advantageously to the floor, and a~~
and
horizontal guides fixed to said main frame along which said feeding-compacting
arrangement frame (5) is moved along the horizontal guides (7) can be moved toward and away
from said main frame to permit access to said cutting head.

2. (Currently amended) A cutting machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized~~
~~in that wherein~~ the cutting head (2) is a cutterhead with the main axis of rotation being horizontal.

3. (Currently amended) A cutting machine according to claim 2, ~~characterized~~
~~in that wherein~~ the cutterhead is provided with a number of cutting knives (13), symmetrically
arranged around its perimeter, the number being divisible by 2, 4, 8 or 16.

4. (Currently amended) A cutting machine according to claim 3, ~~characterized~~
~~in that wherein~~ the cutting knives (1) have cutting edges (10) situated at an angle (δ) relatively to
the horizontal direction during the cutting/comminuting operation.

5. (Currently amended) A cutting machine according to claim 4, ~~characterized~~
~~in that wherein~~ the distance (a) between the lower knife (12) edge of the mouthpiece and a surface
of a cylinder described by the cutting edges of the cutting knives (13) of the cutterhead is almost
zero.

6. (Currently amended) A cutting machine according to claim 4, ~~characterized~~
~~in that~~ wherein the angle (δ) is in the range from 0° to 15° , preferably from 0° to 10° .

7. (Currently amended) a cutting machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized~~
~~in that~~ wherein the guides (7) are placed over the feeding-compacting arrangement frame (5).

8. (Currently amended) A cutting machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized~~
~~in that it is provided with~~ further comprising an integral control system (EC).

9. (Currently amended) A cutting machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized~~
~~in that the main frame (1) is provided with~~ further comprising a shield ~~elements~~ element for the
cutting edges of the cutting knives (13) on the side of ~~the~~ an access space (P) on the main frame to
the cutting head.